

Message Text

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53

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CU-02 PM-04 NSC-05 L-03

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P R 131651Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4349

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINS, SHUM

SUBJECT: ARRESTS OF UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL

1. TWO WIRE SERVICES, LARGE CIRCULATION "LA TERCERA," AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS' RADIO BALMACEDA AUGUST 13 REPORT DETENTION OF 44 MEMBERS OF UNIVERSITY OF CHILE'S NORMAL SCHOOL (INSTITUTO PEDAGOGICO). BREAKDOWN IS 15 PROFESSORS, 6 STUDENTS, ADN 23 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF. NO REASON GIVEN FOR ARRESTS; RADIO BALMACEDA SIAD THEY TOOK PLACE FEW DAYS AGO. RADIO BALMACEDA ALSO READ OUT NAMES OF ALL 44; ONLY ONE OF NOTE IS STUDENT SON-IN-LAW OF PROMINENT INTERNATIONAL NEWS COMMENTATOR JOSE MARIA NAVASAL. GOC AND UNIVERSITY OF CHILE SPOKESMEN REFUSED TO CMMENT ON WHEN QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS.

2. FRG EMBOFF TOLD US HIS EMBASSY HAS ALREADY MADE FORMAL REPRESENTATION TO GOC ON BEHALF OF ONE PROFESSOR WHO IS GERMAN NATIONAL. SOURCE SAID ARRESTS TOOK PLACE OVER PAST WEEKEND, WITH MOST ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 10.

3. COMMENT: NORMAL SCHOOL WAS UNDER CONTROL OF EXTREME LEFT DURING ALLENDE PERIOD, BUT IT WAS THOROUGHLY REORGANIZED AFTER 1973 COUP. WE HAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR ARRESTS, BUT NUMBER,
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LOCALE, AND CIRCUMSTANCES ARE UNUSUAL. WE ANTICIPATE ARRESTS

WILL BE GIVEN CONSIDERABLE INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY.
POPPER

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